

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NICOSI 01640 280549Z

10

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SY-10 M-03 A-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-15 USIA-15 JUSE-00 EB-11 RSR-01 /107 W

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P 271820Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7646

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 1640

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, CY, XF

SUBJECT: TRIAL OF 7 ARAB TERRORISTS

REF: NICOSIA 1558

1. LATE AFTERNOON JULY 27 NICOSIA COURT SENTENCED ALL SEVEN ARAB TERRORISTS TO SEVEN YEARS' IMPRISONMENT FOR APRIL 9 ASSAULT ON HOME ISRAELI AMBASSADOR AND EL AL PLANE. COURT EXPLICITLY REJECTED DEFENSE ARGUMENT THAT GENEVA CONVENTION AND INTERNATIONAL LAW SHOULD APPLY TO SEVEN "PRISONERS OF WAR".

2. NOT ALL DEFENDENTS FOUND GUILTY OF ALL 12 CHARGES IN INDICTMENT. APPARENTLY TAKING INTO ACCOUNT DEFENSE REQUEST FOR LENIENCY BASED ON YOUTH, ABSENCE SELFISH MOTIVES, AND FACT PARENTS SOME OF DEFENDENTS KILLED IN 1967 WAR, COURT ORDERED ALL OTHER SENTENCES TO RUN CONCURRENTLY--I.E., MAXIMUM OF SEVEN YEARS FOR ALL DEFENDENTS.

3. COMMENT: GOC HAS THUS BITTEN JUDICIAL BULLET ON THIS CASE, AFTER LETTING DEFENSE ARGUE AT LENGTH APPLICABILITY GENEVA CONVENTIONS AND POSTPONING FOR WEEK RENDERING OF FINAL VERDICT. WE STILL INCLINED BELIEVE GOC WILL SEEK FIND SOME WAY DEPORT ALL SEVEN AS "UNDESIRABLES". END COMMENT.
MCCLOSKEY

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: morefirh
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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30 JUN 2005

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